

Date: Tue, 16 Mar 93 08:26:03 PST
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #328
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Tue, 16 Mar 93 Volume 93 : Issue 328

Today's Topics:

A.R.E.S./R.A.C.E.S.
CTIA REPLY COMMENTS TO FCC DOCKET 93-01 (scanner ban) (2 msgs)
 Customer Service--HRO and others
 Just for fun . . . someone's screw up
 License delays (another data point)
 Motorola Radios Are/Were Tough
 New AEA unit - replace PK-232?
 Repair my HW-101?? (2 msgs)
 TH-26AT vs. HTX-202 recommendations
 VHF Car Antenna: 1/2 or 1/4 wave??
 VHF Car Antenna: Update
What about those FAQing number stations anyway?

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Sun, 14 Mar 1993 23:27:34 EST
From: anomaly.sbs.com!n1mpq!news@uunet.uu.net
Subject: A.R.E.S./R.A.C.E.S.
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

cs527@cleveland.Freenet.Edu (Stephen F. Nowak) writes:

>
> I'm looking for the good, the bad and, of course, the ugly about
> the use of amateur radio to provide emergency communications. If
> you have an idea, opinion, suggestion or expereince in this area,

> please drop me a line.

Well, last night we had activated A.R.E.S. and Skywarn here in RI. We learned alot of things. We learned that the Red Cross has some woefully outdated equipment. We learned that coordination could be a bit better. But all in all it went well. And me, well I got to operate K1JFI from Noon until 2AM with KD1HZ. Other players: N1FKI, KB8FKF, N1HNJ, N1KRM, KD1BE, N1NRG, and oh my god, too many more to remember right now. But everyone did an excellent job considering the circumstances.

--... ..-- .. . -. .----- -- .---. ---.-- .-

Tony

-- Anthony S. Pelliccio, n1mpq/aa // A man who feels sees life as //
-- system @ garlic.sbs.com // a tragedy, a man who thinks //
-----// sees life as a comedy. (This //
-- Flame Retardent Sysadmin // was in my fortune cookie!) //

-- This is a calm .sig! --

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 17:53:34 GMT
From: usc!cs.utexas.edu!tamsun.tamu.edu!news.utdallas.edu!corpgate!crchh327!
crchh80c!larryt@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: CTIA REPLY COMMENTS TO FCC DOCKET 93-01 (scanner ban)
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

This thing is really starting to anger me. Does anyone know who to call or write to to complaining about this proposal?

--

+-----+
| LARRY W. TRUESDALE INTERNET ADDRESS: larryt@bnr.ca |
| | |
| Work: (214) 684-4790 BUSINESS ADDRESS: RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: |
| Home: (214) 442-7074 Bell-Northern Research Mr. Larry Truesdale |
| Pager: (817) 667-6846 Post Office Box 833871 Post Office Box 1574 |
| Fax: (214) 684-3711 Richardson, TX 75083-3871 Wylie, TX 75098-1574 |
| Data: (214) 442-1035 Mail Station D0112 |
| ESN: (444) 684-4790 |
+-----+

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 19:29:28 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!bogus.sura.net!
darwin.sura.net!rsg1.er.usgs.gov!resdgs1.er.usgs.gov!tbodoh@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: CTIA REPLY COMMENTS TO FCC DOCKET 93-01 (scanner ban)
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <C3xz1A.D8D@news.rich.bnr.ca>, larryt@crchh80c.NoSubdomain.NoDomain
(Larry Truesdale) writes:

|> This thing is really starting to anger me. Does anyone know who to call or
|> write to to complaining about this proposal?

|>

|> --

|> +-----+
|> | LARRY W. TRUESDALE INTERNET ADDRESS: larryt@bnr.ca |

--

Unfortunately, this is more than a proposal. Congress has passed the law and
now the FCC is obliged to refine it and then enforce it. Complaining to the
FCC is most likely a moot point since they must follow the law and also I
suspect that complaining to them would be preaching to the choir - they
probably "unofficially" think that it sucks too.

The only way to oppose this is to somehow get congress to repeal the law
which is forcing the FCC to act. One method would be for many people to
contact their congresspersons. Another method would be to publicise the
stupidity of the law and perhaps reveal which congresspersons received
money from the Cellular lobby compared to which of them voted or lobbied
or sponsored the bill. Enquiring minds want to know.

+++++
+ Tom Bodoh - Sr. systems software engineer
+
+ USGS/EROS Data Center, Sioux Falls, SD, USA 57198 (605) 594-6830 +
+ Internet; bodoh@dgg.cr.usgs.gov (152.61.192.66)
+
+ "Welcome back my friends to the show that never ends!" EL&P
+
+++++

Date: 15 Mar 93 13:24:25 EST
From: psinnntp!arrl.org@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Customer Service--HRO and others
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In rec.radio.amateur.misc, britton@psi.llumc.edu (Barrie Britton) writes:

>In reading the recent spate of complaints concerning the preceived lack
>of customer service at various HRO, Radio Shack, Sears, and other retail
>stores, I am amazed at the high level of customer frustration expressed.

I'm certainly no expert about retailing--I don't work in it, thank goodness--but it seems to me that over-the-counter retailers are between a rock and a hard place. On the one hand, they have to keep their prices within at least striking distance of the mail-order places to avoid the "see it at the store, buy it by mail" syndrome. On the other hand, face-to-face customer service is a lot less efficient than phone service, so their labor costs drive them right out of competitiveness unless they hire slave labor. And hiring cheap labor ultimately demonstrates the old maxim that you get what you pay for.

My approach has always been *not* to count on getting much help from the store staff. About all I expect them to tell me is what's in stock and what they are asking for it. Most salespeople--in just about *any* consumer business--don't really know much technical detail about the products they sell, and they sometimes get surly if you demand answers they can't provide. Besides, their job is to close sales. They have *their* best interests at heart, not yours. To the extent they can align their interests with yours, smart retailers will do so. But when push comes to shove, putting food on their own tables is what motivates them. So, I find out as much as I can about the products I'm interested in *before* I go to the store. Then I just ask to be let alone to examine the stuff to make my decision.

Jon Bloom, KE3Z | jbbloom@arrl.org
American Radio Relay League | Justice is being allowed to do whatever
225 Main St. | I like. Injustice is whatever prevents
Newington, CT 06111 | my doing so. -- Samuel Johnson

Date: Sun, 14 Mar 1993 22:55:26 EST
From: anomaly.sbs.com!n1mpq!news@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Just for fun . . . someone's screw up
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

William=E.=Newkirk%Pubs%GenAv.Mlb@ns14.cca.CR.rockwell.COM writes:

> (transmit timers...)
>>Then what happens.....you can't talk anymore? Or do you just hit the button
>>again and keep at it?
>
> You just unkey and rekey. One example of this is in the Collins VHF-22
> aircraft radios. you get 2 minutes before the radio will turn off
> automatically. when you unkey, the radio puts 2 audio bursts on the speaker

> to let you know you "timed out", otherwise everything acts normally.
>
> I don't have the HTX-202 book with me today, but i think that rig also has a
> transmit timer in it also. another use for such an override is to monitor th
> e
> PA temperature and shut down the transmitter if the PA is too hot. of course
> ,
> in an emergency, you need a way to override the override.
>
> bill wb9ivr

Hey, count the Yaesu FT-5100 in there too! If you hold down the LOW
button while powering up you'll see 00 on the display. Dial in your
timeout limit and hit low again. Bingo, it shuts down xmt after that
time.

73 de n1mpq/aa
Tony

```
-----  
-- Anthony S. Pelliccio, n1mpq/aa      // A man who feels sees life as //  
-- system @ garlic.sbs.com           // a tragedy, a man who thinks  //  
-----// sees life as a comedy. (This //  
-- Flame Retardent Sysadmin         // was in my fortune cookie!)  //  
-----  
-- This is a calm .sig! --  
-----
```

Date: Sun, 14 Mar 1993 23:31:43 EST
From: anomaly.sbs.com!n1mpq!news@uunet.uu.net
Subject: License delays (another data point)
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

randym@eskimo.com (Randall Moeller) writes:

>
> I earned my first ticket on January 2nd and got it today,
> March 12th. A ten-week turnaround. (Yow! Now I can send
> away for another, shorter call sign!)
> .
> Randy
> KB7SXT/AA

Out here in 1-Land we're running at about an 8 week period. So I should
have my Advanced call in a week or so. Ahhhh....

Tony

```
-----  
-- Anthony S. Pelliccio, n1mpq/aa    // A man who feels sees life as //  
-- system @ garlic.sbs.com          // a tragedy, a man who thinks  //  
-----// sees life as a comedy. (This //  
-- Flame Retardent Sysadmin        // was in my fortune cookie!)  //  
-----  
-- This is a calm .sig! --  
-----
```

Date: Sun, 14 Mar 1993 11:30:43 GMT
From: nntp.telebit.com!phr@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Motorola Radios Are/Were Tough
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1no0llINNk1@network.ucsd.edu> brian@ucsd.edu (Brian Kantor) writes:

The first Motorola trade show booth I ever encountered featured the salesdrone hammering nails into a board with an HT-200.

I've always been impressed with the ruggedness of Moto walkies.
- Brian

Unfortunately for ruggedness, today's market seems to be dominated by very small, miniaturized HT's. I have an IC-P4AT not much bigger than a pack of cigarettes. It weighs < 10 oz including nicad, which I think is about 1/3 of what the HT-200 weighs. It seems well-made enough though nowhere near as rugged as the Moto unit. I'm sure it would survive a 6 inch drop onto a table, however :).

Date: 15 Mar 93 19:54:30 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: New AEA unit - replace PK-232?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I heard from a friend this weekend that there is a new AEA unit out - not the DSP boxes, but a replacement for the PK-232. I have let my QST lapse, so I haven't seen any ads. Anybody care to fill me in? Thanks.

```
*****  
Carlton Ellis          *    BITNET CELLIS@BROCKVMA  
Administrative Computing *  
State University of New York *  
*****
```

College at Brockport

*

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 14:39:21 GMT

From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!cs.utexas.edu!

csc.ti.com!tilde.csc.ti.com!m2.dseg.ti.com!ernest!cmptrc!mitch@network.UCSD.EDU

Subject: Repair my HW-101??

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

just a note, I am using a hw101 that belongs to a friend of mine. I went in and cleaned it out, re-seated all the tubes, blew out the dust, make a few minor repairs. Its up and going from north central texas, just this last weekend, I've worked both coasts, including long island, along with the Cayman Islands(sp) on 10 meters SSB. I think the hw101 is a pretty decent rig , especially for the money thats likely to be invested init. They aren't all that hard to repair and will give you lots of life for that investment.

Just my .02 cents.

Mitchael

KA5SOI /KT

(tech pluss upgrading to general and beyond!)

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 16:17:32 GMT

From: agate!linus!linus.mitre.org!mwvm.mitre.org!m14494@ames.arpa

Subject: Repair my HW-101??

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

ûMark Bagdy writes:

> I would like to know your opinion of fixing up my old HW-101.

Speaking as a former HW-101 owner, here's the Official repair technique for all "Hot Water" gear:

1. Buy a 1957 Buick RoadMaster
2. Put the rig on the ground behind the rear wheels
3. Put the transmission in Reverse
4. Gun the engine
5. Pop the clutch.

I jest of course; I have fond memories of all my Heathkits, including the HW-101. If you can fix it up cheap, it's an ok rig that will get you on the air. If the repair costs much more than about \$50-\$60 or so in parts and bother, I think it's probably not worth it. Clean HW-101s in good working order go for

not much more than \$100 at hamfests. Good luck.

Mike, N4PDY

* These are my opinions only.*

Date: 15 Mar 1993 19:16:52 GMT
From: usc!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!sdd.hp.com!col.hp.com!bobw@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: TH-26AT vs. HTX-202 recommendations
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

sami@bcarh13d.bnr.ca (Sami Boulos) writes:

> I'm considering either the TH-26AT or HTX-202 HTs. I'd appreciate
> the pros/cons of each from owners of these. Thanks.
>
> --
> Sami Boulos | Bell-Northern Research | TEL: (613) 765-2108
> | P.O. Box 3511, Stn. C | FAX: (613) 765-2854
> sami@bnr.ca | Ottawa, Ontario Canada K1Y 4H7 | #include <disclaimer.h>

I've had a couple of TH-26ATs. Nice feature set, nice setup on the controls.

The only problem is the receiver (like most HTs that receive out of band) can get creamed by paging transmitters. The HTX-202 front end is not broadband and alledgedly sidesteps this problem, but without offereing extended receive coverage. So I guess it depends on whether you want the extended receive freqs.

Bob Witte / HP Colo Springs / bobw@col.hp.com / KB0CY

Date: 15 Mar 1993 19:10:53 GMT
From: sdd.hp.com!col.hp.com!bobw@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: VHF Car Antenna: 1/2 or 1/4 wave??
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

gary@ke4zv.uucp (Gary Coffman) writes:

> In article <1nt222INNbj4@hp-col.col.hp.com> bobw@col.hp.com (Bob Witte) writes:
> > The 1/2 wave antenna is very valuable in tough situations. (And by the
> > wave, many/some of the 2M/70cm dual band antennas are a 1/2 wave on 2M.)
> > Anyway, the usefullness of the 1/2 wave is when you don't have a good
> > ground plane underneath the antenna. This is NOT just an issue for

> > fiberglass body cars and boats. If you end up mounting an antenna on
> > the corner of a vehicle for one reason or another a 1/4 wave or 5/8 wave
> > will not work as well as a 1/2 wave due to the asymmetrical (read "poor")
> > ground plane.

>

> Actually, *any* antenna mounted asymmetrically on a metal car body will
> have an asymmetric pattern due to near field effects. Whether it's design
> is ground independent or not doesn't make any real difference. The only
> time you can get a pattern approaching symmetric with an asymmetrically
> mounted antenna is when the vehicle is non-metallic.

>

> Gary

Good point. However, a 1/4 wave (or other antenna that depends on a ground plane) will exhibit high SWR and other problems without a decent ground plane. The 1/2 wave (or other antenna that is 'ground independent') will usually provide a low SWR independent of ground plane shape.

Yeah, I know, SWR isn't everything.

Bob

Bob Witte / HP Colo Springs / bobw@col.hp.com / KB0CY

Date: 15 Mar 1993 19:06:55 GMT
From: sdd.hp.com!hpscit.sc.hp.com!spikes@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: VHF Car Antenna: Update
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I've used the Avanti 2m, 450Mhz, and 10m thru-the-glass antennas on about 5-6 different cars. Once the instructions (huh!) were read, the epoxy mixed correctly (no bubbles, please), they all worked fine on all the vehicles, except the 10m which was one of my butcher jobs on a CB ant somebody gave me.

You really think I'm gonna start WWIII with the wife by punching a hole through ***HER*** new Explorer? Nah, I'll figure out something with the luggage, it should be no problem. 1/2 the fun of putting toys into 'new' vehicles is figuring out how to mount the antenna w/o holes. The other 1/2 of the fun is figuring out how to mount a 3 lb radio on the bottom of a plastic dash.....

HEY JAY! Where did you get an Explorer for \$15K. I just got one for \$400 over REAL cost and it, uh, well, uh, wasn't \$15K !!! Maybe \$15K PLUS an ICOM w/a CRT in it!

Bill
wb6rzg

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 18:20:23 GMT
From: pmafire!mica-nsf.inel.gov!guinness!gozer!betz@uunet.uu.net
Subject: What about those FAQing number stations anyway?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Mar15.142552.26594@bnr.ca> mwandel@bnr.ca (Markus Wandel) writes:
>My turn to ask the eternal question: What is it with these number
>stations anyway? The one I heard recently was at about 5.165MHz
>
>So. It's an encrypted transmission, it's meant to be received by

There are many hypotheses about these, although the collective wisdom
seems to converge at a one-way transmission via Vernam Cipher.

>low-tech means, it's one-way, it's quite likely to more than one
>recipient, it's in GERMAN, and it's transmitted in/to North America.
>What on earth is it?
>

The language is not relevant. All that would show is that the receiving
end is capable of counting to 10 in German. Not exactly a difficult
thing to learn if German's not your native tongue (ack. a sentence
with 2 negatives. sorry...).

Drew
--

betz@gozer.idbsu.edu
*** brought into your terminal from the free state of idaho ***
*** when you outlaw rights, only outlaws will have rights ***
*** spook fodder: fema, nsa, clinton, gore, insurrection, nsc,
semtex, neptunium, terrorist, cia, mi5, mi6, kgb, deuterium

Date: Sun, 14 Mar 1993 23:23:17 EST
From: anomaly.sbs.com!n1mpq!news@uunet.uu.net
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1noronINN1nn@bashful.isi.com>,
<1993Mar12.181652.2678@jupiter.sun.csd.unb.ca>,
<1993Mar12.212736.19927@netcom.com>mpq
Subject : Re: Motorola HTs

pdh@netcom.com (P D H) writes:

> unbham@jupiter.sun.csd.unb.ca (UNBARC) writes:

>

>> A couple that will work excellent on the amateur bands is the HT-600,
>> Radius P-200, MT1000, Radius P300. These are all synthesised units which
>> are programable with a PC. I use a 99 channel MT1000 on freq as low as
>> 144.000 MHz and as high as 174 MHz.

>

> Motorola does not officially sell the software to do this, or the interface
> needed, or document the interface protocol, to individuals and probably not
> to some businesses as well. While I have gotten word from a couple of
> people that I could get free copies of the software under the table, and
> the interface is at least sold by one other company, this situation makes
> the Motorola HTs less attractive.

But in my case, I happen to know someone who was a technician for
Motorola and when they pulled out of the SE New England area, he and all
the others in the shop decided to copy EVERYTHING! He also has quite an
array of equipment. :) So, snoop around.... if you want it, somebody has
it.

> | "It's not broken... it's just functionally challenged" --Phil and Pete |

Oh I love it, we used to call no-coders the Code Impaired, but now we
call them Morsely Challenged. :)

73 de n1mpq/aa - -. --- -. . --- -. . -. . -. .
. -- .-- -... .. --. -- - .- -. . -.-.-

Tony

-- Anthony S. Pelliccio, n1mpq/aa // A man who feels sees life as //
-- system @ garlic.sbs.com // a tragedy, a man who thinks //
-----// sees life as a comedy. (This //
-- Flame Retardent Sysadmin // was in my fortune cookie!) //

-- This is a calm .sig! --

Date: Sun, 14 Mar 1993 23:14:33 EST
From: anomaly.sbs.com!n1mpq!news@uunet.uu.net
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1993Mar11.164602.23830@netcom.com> ,

<930311.194505.5p8.rusnews.w165w@garlic.sbs.com>,
<1993Mar12.160813.24809@mixcom.com>
Subject : Re: Kenwood TH78A vs. Alinco DJ580

kevin.jessup <kevin.jessup@mixcom.mixcom.com> writes:

> Regarding Alinco quality...

Yes, re: Alinco Quality... it sucks. Their battery rails stink, you can't charge the battery on the 580 at the same time as you're running off a power supply (you can do this on a Kenwood), and the microphone on a DR-599T is flimsy! I'll NEVER buy anything made by Alinco. Either Kenwood or Yaesu. As for Icom, I have no opinion of them since I've never really used an Icom rig.

> So have you seen the Alinco ads in QST and CQ? Has anyone actually
> driven their car over one yet?? Let me know if it still works.
> Oh, could some Kenwood TH-78A owner please try it too? ;-) It's
> always good to use an identical procedure for all units under test.

A 580T would crack like an egg if you put 100 lbs on it, let alone a car.

> And, changing the subject, are there any "designed and/or manufactured in
> the USA HTs out there? What about other VHF/UHF amateur radio equipment
> (other than antennas)?

I haven't heard of any. Everything we use comes from that tiny island in the pacific off the coast of China... ya know.. Japan, the country we never should have rebuilt after WW2.

Tony

-- Anthony S. Pelliccio, n1mpq/aa // A man who feels sees life as //
-- system @ garlic.sbs.com // a tragedy, a man who thinks //
-----// sees life as a comedy. (This //
-- Flame Retardent Sysadmin // was in my fortune cookie!) //

-- This is a calm .sig! --

Date: 15 Mar 1993 19:48:21 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!bogus.sura.net!
darwin.sura.net!mojo.eng.umd.edu!chuck@network.UCSD.EDU
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1m7bck\$fpn@uxa.ecn.bgu.edu>, <103360159@hpfcs0.FC.HP.COM>,
<1993Mar13.191255.8724@n8emr.cmhnet.org>n.su
Subject : Re: DESPERATE...NEED TO KNOW FACTS CONCERNING LEGALITY

In article <1993Mar13.191255.8724@n8emr.cmhnet.org> gws@n8emr.cmhnet.org (Gary Sanders) writes:

->In article <103360159@hpfcs0.FC.HP.COM> perry@hpfcs0.FC.HP.COM (Perry Scott) writes:

->>> I am desperate to find out if it is legal to own a ham radio

->>> that has been modified to TRANSMIT out of band.

->>> ie. a Yaesu FT-23R that can be modified to transmit between

->>> 140-164 MHz...I think.

->>

->>It is legal for a ham to own an out-of-band radio because we do

->>experimentation.

->

->This is silly..... what experimentation can you do out of band. Its

->illegal to transmit out of band period. (ok except in an emergency).

->The TX out of band is just an effect of RX out of band.

->Even if he can modify for out of band TX he can not legally transmit

->out of band even if he has a license for that band.

Gary, you need to loosen up your imagination a little bit. Suppose one wanted to use their fancy 2m HT as the basis of a 1296MHz rig. They could connect the 2m HT to a transverter that would translate its inputs and outputs to/from 2m to the 1296MHz band. In an application of this sort, the user would want as large a transmit range from the HT as is possible. Nothing immoral about this in your philosophy is there?

73,

Chuck Harris - WA3UQV
chuck@eng.umd.edu

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #328
